

Wayne Allard

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ALLARD PRAISES PASSAGE OF SAND DUNES BILL LEGISLATION MAKES AREA NATION'S NEWEST NATIONAL PARK

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Senator Wayne Allard (R-CO) today praised House passage of his legislation (S. 2547) to make the Great Sand Dunes National Monument into our nation's newest national park.

"Today is a great victory for not only people of the San Luis Valley who have worked for several years to make today happen, but also for our children and grandchildren," Allard said following House approval of his legislation. "Turning the Great National Sand Dunes into a national park will allow the dunes to survive for future generations. Their grandeur and splendor will no longer be threatened by the prospect of a water raid that would have resulted in a slow, but inevitable disappearance of this very special place."

Allard praised the hard work of Colorado Third District Representative Scott McInnis who helped shepherd the bill through the House of Representatives during its final days of the session.

"From day one, this has been a team effort with Representative McInnis," added Allard. "His tireless work in helping draft the bill and ensuring the bill's passage in the late hours of the session make him the MVP (Most Valuable Player) of this effort. Special praise is also due to my Senate colleague Ben Nighthorse Campbell who helped me get this bill through the U.S. Senate and made phone calls to the House leadership last week in support of my bill."

Allard said he hoped President Clinton would have a special bill signing ceremony for the approved legislation.

"A great thing has been accomplished here and it deserves special recognition," Allard said. "I think it would be a wonderful gesture by the President if he honored this accomplishment with a special ceremony at the White House or even in Colorado. I can not think of a more majestic setting for a bill signing ceremony than the back drop of the Great Sand Dunes."

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